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PATENT
Attorney Docket No. 041514-5105

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
)
Ikuya KIKUCHI et al.)
)
Application No.: 09/765,306)
)
Filed: January 22, 2001)
)
For: OPTICAL PICKUP APPARATUS AND)
INFORMATION RECORDING AND/OR)
REPRODUCING APPARATUS)

Art Unit: 2651
Examiner: To Be Assigned

RECEIVED

AUG 31 2001

Technology Center 2600

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)**

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(b), Applicants bring to the attention of the Examiner the document listed on the attached PTO Form 1449.

To the best of the undersigned's knowledge, this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits for the above-referenced application and no fees are believed to be necessary.

A copy of the listed document is attached. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the listed document and evidence that consideration by making appropriate notations on the attached PTO Form 1449.

This submission does not represent that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or constitute "Prior Art." If it should be determined that any of the listed documents do not constitute "Prior Art" under United

States law, Applicants reserve the right to present to the Office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents. Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 50-0310.

Respectfully submitted,

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By:



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Dated: August 29, 2001

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